

Application No. 10/789,355
Response dated December 15, 2006
Reply to Office Action of September 12, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 9-17 were pending. Claims 12, 13 and 15 have been cancelled. Thus, Claims 9-11, 14 and 16-17 are currently pending.

The only rejection remaining is directed to claims 9-14. Claims 9-14 have been rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims 1-8 of U.S. Patent No. 6,956,117. To obviate this rejection, applicants hereby submit a terminal disclaimer with respect to prior patent 6,956,117. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested. Claims 16 and 17 are free of rejections.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and such favorable action at an early date is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner feels that a telephone interview would be helpful in advancing prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney below.

Respectfully submitted,

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